



**Town of Clarkson
Office of the Supervisor
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan**

APPENDIX B - 9N

Hazard Specific Analysis: Disease

Definition:

“Pathological condition of a body part, an organ or a system resulting from various causes such as infection, genetic defect or environmental stress and characterized by an identifiable group of signs or symptoms.”¹

Description:

Historically the world has seen significant fatalities as a result of disease outbreak. Medical research and breakthroughs over time as well as immunizations, quarantine implementation, public education and alerting capabilities have resulted in reduction of outbreak potential in recent history. Locally, this hazard is considered low with a rank of 8. However, the recent SARS epidemic is an example of how new diseases can impact any community and this hazard should not be dismissed because of lack of events.

Overview of specific hazard locations and the extent of the hazard:

more detail to follow: West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, Rabies, E-Coli, Flu, Tuberculosis

Previous occurrences of the hazard:

more detail to follow: West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, Rabies, E-Coli, Flu, Tuberculosis

Probability of future occurrences and potential magnitude:

In addition to those diseases described above (as already having a local presence), the probability for future occurrence related to possible biological warfare and terrorist attack is possible, although unlikely. There is

¹ American Heritage Stedman's Medical Dictionary

always the potential for new strains of bacteria as well as bacteria that becomes resistant to antibiotics making infection more difficult to treat. The potential magnitude is difficult to predict, but not hard to imagine in terms of severity.

In addition to Rabies, Lyme Disease, and West Nile Virus, there are other diseases that can be contracted by humans from animal vectors. One of recent concern is Monkeypox.

Maps of hazard areas:

Map is not required due to widespread geographic potential.

Analysis of the impact on business, infrastructure & critical facilities:

more detail to follow

Specific information concerning estimated value (\$) of potential loss, damage to structures, casualties, etc.

more detail to follow

Notes on data limitations: Time and records access